

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER
U. S. WEATHER BUREAU
June 7, 1917—Last twenty-
four hours' rainfall, .00.
Temperature, Minn. 82; Max.
73. Weather, pt. cloudy.

Hawaiian Gazette

LATEST CABLED SUGAR QUOTATIONS
Cents Dollars
90° Centrifugal N. Y. per lb. per ton
Price, Hawaiian basis 5.83 \$118.60
Last previous quota-
tion..... 5.89 \$117.90

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HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY, FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 1917.—SEMI-WEEKLY.

WHOLE NUMBER 4641

HAIG STRIKES MIGHTIEST BLOW OF WAR AND DRIVES FIVE MILES ALONG WIDE FRONT

TAKES THOUSANDS OF PRISONERS--- MANY GUNS HUNS WHOLLY SURPRISED

Miles of Trenches, Three Towns and Dominating Ridge South of Ypres

(Associated Press By U. S. Naval Communication Service.)

LONDON, June 8.—With the springing of a series of mines so heavily charged with high explosives that the detonations were plainly heard along the English coast, one hundred and thirty miles away, the British in Flanders yesterday struck the hardest blow against the invaders of Belgium that the war has yet seen, struck with such success that by last night the toll of prisoners taken checked up to more than five thousand, with others coming in as the British drove forward and sent their captives to the rear.

The German defenses along a nine-mile front were blasted into complete destruction, with those who manned them either killed or captured. Through the great gap formed by their mines, the British have plunged forward for five miles, capturing position after position and beating back the German counters that the Teuton commanders were able to launch towards the close of the day.

MANY GUNS CAPTURED

A large number of heavy guns and machine guns and trench weapons by the hundreds have been captured, with great stores of munitions, but no attempt has been made as yet to count these. The British have other work to do, and with hand grenade, machine gun, rifle and bayonet they are doing it.

The German losses are reported to be very heavy, with the British suffering comparatively little so far in the battle. The catastrophic nature of the British blow, the terrific bombardment that followed the disappearance of the first line trenches and the fury of the infantry onslaught appeared to completely disorganize the Germans and the British had advanced three miles and captured numerous important points before the Germans could be rallied for the first feeble counter.

SOUTH OF YPRES SALIENT

The blow was struck south of Ypres, on the Wyschaete bend, where the German control of the Messines-Wyschaete ridge had enabled them for the past two and a half years to dominate the British positions south of Ypres and make that point known as "the bloody salient." This morning the whole of the German defensive line is securely in British hands and five miles in the rear of their advance columns.

Hill 60, which in the early days of the war was fought for by British and German, changing hands repeatedly, is no longer a hill. A British blast completely demolished it and the German redoubt that crowned it.

IMPREGNABLE LINE SMASHED

The first advance of the British infantry, through the smoke and dust of their mines, carried them through the villages of Messines and Wyschaete and gave them the entire line of defenses, believed to have been impregnable, for a front of nine miles, from south of La Douv brook to North of Mount Sorrel.

Pushing their advance, the British early in the afternoon, working on schedule, carried the village of Astaverne and the entire defense system in the rear of that village for a depth of five miles.

It was in an effort to regain these positions that the Germans launched their delayed counter attack, which was beaten off with ease by the flushed and triumphant Tommies, the German storming party being almost wiped out.

BRITISH STILL ADVANCING

An official announcement issued by the war office early this morning states that the British are continuing their "methodical advance," hourly adding to terrain taken and prisoners and guns captured.

All reports from the front agree that this has been the most daring and the most successful of all the blows struck by Haig since the Entente's offensive on the west was launched and has been the most fruitful in the capture of position, prisoners and guns, while the British losses have been comparatively light.

The preparations for the blow were the most elaborate yet carried through and probably represent the greatest degree of careful planning in all the history of warfare.

GERMANS WAITED CONFIDENTLY

The British won their victory in the face of the fact that for three weeks it has been apparent to the German command that a blow was about to be struck. The daily increasing artillery bombardment demonstrated the British preparation, but the Germans rested confident in their defenses and were wholly taken by surprise by the nature of the attack.

For three weeks the British guns have been hurling high explosive shells against the German lines, cutting the barbed wire entanglements and apparently clearing the way for another such drive as was carried through on the Ancre front. To meet this threatened

VICTORS and vanquished on the western front, the picture showing Germans surrendering to the victorious British Tommies, after a heavy fight in which the Huns had suffered severely. The British soldiers open up as they advance over the captured ground and allow the surrendering Germans to pass through their lines to the rear and safety from the British and German barrage fire that can be seen ploughing up the ground in the rear.



attack, the German commanders heavily reinforced their lines and brought up machine guns innumerable to meet the British rush.

CARNAGE AND DESTRUCTION

The British artillery, reinforced by Belgian batteries, brought their drum fire to a climax at dawn, by which time thousands of shells were continually in the air or bursting upon the German lines. Just as they broke the great guns ceased their roar and the sudden silence came as an ominous sign to the Germans that the attack was about to be launched. Even the desultory firing of the German guns ceased. From dugouts and shelters the German machine gun crews poured, ready for the drive which never came.

Following a silence of twenty minutes, such as that front has not known since the days of the great German drive for Calais, came a series of explosions that actually rocked the earth for miles around. Mines that had been two years in the making, tamped with a million pounds of high explosives, were touched off in such rapid succession along a nine-mile front as to seem actually one great explosion.

NOTHING LEFT ALIVE

Where there had been tremendous concrete trench systems, redoubts bristling with machine guns and quickfiring, manned by thousands of ready men, nothing complete, nothing alive, was left, while through the dust clouds that were shot thousands of feet into the morning air recommenced the British and Belgian shells, in a heavy, destructive barrage miles in the rear of the German front.

The preliminary bombardment of the German lines, reported in despatches from Berlin as "vicious," was as play compared to the awful thunder of the guns which hailed their shells into the German positions following the springing of the mines. In this bombardment every class of shell was used. High explosives shattered the rear defense system, smoke shells smothered the German gunners left on the Messines-Wyschaete ridge, gas shells drove the Teutons back in the rear, and under cover of the fire the British infantry sprang to the attack.

GERMANS DEMORALIZED

Only a few dazed survivors were left to meet them on the main ridge, across which the Tommies swept unopposed. For three miles they met only disorganized, disheartened foemen, whose opposition was overcome in short order, those who refused to surrender immediately being shot down or bayoneted.

On the extreme limits of the advance, where the effects of the mines had not destroyed the defenses, the tanks crept into action, clearing trench after trench. Practically every branch of the service came into the action, participating actively in the general advance. Almost from daybreak the engineers have been busy preparing the way for the advance of the big guns over the shattered terrain.

SURPRISE WAS COMPLETE

Prisoners taken state that the nature of the attack came as a complete surprise. They had been warned that an attack was about to be launched and were ready to meet it, believing that the nature of the German defense was such that the British would walk into a trap all prepared and set.

However, when the great mines were sprung and hundreds of thousands of tons of concrete and steel and earth were hurled high into the air, with lurid flames mingling with the flying debris of men and defenses, the whole German army concentrated along the front became panic stricken and for the time being was wholly out of control of their officers.

PREMIER WAS LISTENING

The detonations of the exploding mines were heard plainly on portions of the English coast. Premier Lloyd George, who knew the hour set for the touching off of the explosives, was at his home at Walton Heath, listening for the blasts. As the tick of the minute set, the great roar in Flanders, which carried instant death to thousands of the foes of Britain, was plainly heard by the Premier and by many others up and down the coast, although none but the Premier and those immediately around him knew the significance of the sound.

DISPUTE OVER TYPE OF SHIPS TO BE BUILT WAXES WARM

Engineers of Federal Shipping Board Issue Statement Calling Goethals To Task For His Opposition To Wooden Vessels

ALLEGED CONTRACTS FRAMED
SO AS TO DEFEAT PURPOSE

Eustace and Clark Declare
Course Pursued By Head of
Commission Is of Type That
Approaches Obstructionism

(Associated Press By U. S. Naval Communication Service)

WASHINGTON, June 8.—Carrying to an acute stage the controversy over the relative merits of wooden and of steel ships as factors in smashing the submarine blockade, Frederick A. Eustace and A. B. Clark, engineers of the federal shipping board, issued a statement yesterday virtually charging Maj.-Gen. George W. Goethals, in charge of the ship construction, with obstructionist tactics militating against the wooden ship project.

The Eustace-Clark statement practically charges General Goethals with having so framed the contracts for the wooden ships as to make their construction prohibitive on account of the requirements of the contracts.

The project for the construction immediately of a thousand wooden ships in all parts of the country to take the place of the tonnage destroyed by German undersea pirates and thus to break the submarine blockade was originated by Engineer Eustace, who is a member of the shipping board. The government, through the shipping board, organized and incorporated a company to build the vessels. General Goethals gave up a position at the head of road building in New Jersey to take charge of the ship construction for the United States.

Soon afterwards the controversy over the feasibility of a great wooden ship fleet developed. The difficulties in the way of the wooden ship project were pointed out as inability to secure such an amount of lumber, the impracticability of the plan and the impossibility of having so many ships constructed at one time. Two weeks ago, at a banquet of steel manufacturers in New York, General Goethals announced that the wooden ship plan had been abandoned. In announcing his substitute plan for the construction of steel ships that eventually could be made into an American merchant marine, General Goethals said:

"On the principle of the selective draft I have been called again into Government service."

"The plans which I found had been formulated were to build 1000 wooden ships in eighteen months. They were to be built of steel, because there was no steel available."

"I consulted with Mr. Farrell and found that I could get steel. I thereupon announced the impossibility of the wooden ship project. Fifty million dollars have been appropriated for the use of the shipping board from the sale of Panama canal bonds. But no effort has yet been made to sell any of those bonds. Money is necessary to build ships, and I began a campaign to get money. I am also a believer in absolute authority. I wanted money and authority. I have been given both under the pledge of the steel people to supply me with materials."

"I want the cooperation of the steel men. I have got to have the cooperation of manufacturers. Those who help build ships will help bring the war to a termination."

Later a compromise plan for the construction of several hundred of the wooden ships was arranged.

The statement issued yesterday by Engineers Eustace and Clark alleges that the construction of the original number of wooden ships was feasible and would not in any manner interfere with the construction at the same time of additional ships of steel.

William Denham, chairman of the shipping board and president of the company in charge of the construction of the fleet of vessels for the government, said yesterday that he did not desire to make any comment on the statement of Eustace and Clark nor in any way enter into the controversy.

General Goethals refused to comment.

AMERICA MUST CONSUME LESS

Hoover Issues Plain Warning To
United States—World Is
Short of Food

(Associated Press By U. S. Naval Communication Service)

WASHINGTON, June 8.—Reduce food consumption and increase the output of food. One billion bushels of cereals, besides fats, sugar and other staples will be needed by the Allies of America and neutrals next year.

These are the outstanding features of the report on the food supplies and needs of this nation and the allied nations, prepared by Herbert C. Hoover, food administrator, and published yesterday.

Hoover's report is practically a world food census, for it takes into consideration the needs of America and Europe, and the available food supplies therein, as well as the available supplies in both North and South America, Asia and Africa, on which the nations fighting the Huns can draw.

The primary purpose of the report was to discover what duty devolved on the United States and what the nation, both government and private individuals, must do to sustain the fighting forces and the people of the countries allied with America in battling Prussianism.

Hoover in his report shows that England, France, Belgium, Italy, Portugal, Serbia and the other Allied powers and certain neutral nations will require one billion bushels of cereals, during 1918 to sustain their armies and their civilian populations. This figure takes into consideration the neutral nations of Europe that must be considered both as economic and political factors in the world war situation and the requirements of these neutral nations in food for their people that they may continue to produce commodities of value to the Allies.

Other Supplies Needed

The required billion bushels of cereals is in addition, says the report, to immense quantities of fats and fat-producing foods, sugar and other staple food products.

In compiling the report, Hoover has taken into consideration the production of these required food articles not only in the United States, but in Europe and other places abroad. His figures show that the total production abroad will be sufficient to meet only a small portion of the demand and that on America falls the hereupon task of supplying the balance of the world's food supply that the world may live despite German piracy, militarism and barbarism.

Must Reduce and Produce

"It means," says the report, "that we must reduce the consumption of food in this country and increase the production."

In previous estimates, Hoover placed the amount of grain that the Allies will need this year at a billion bushels. America and Canada, he said, can fur-

NO INTERFERENCE IN RUSSIA PLANNED

United States Will Let New Re-
public Settle Own Difficul-
ties Unless Aid Is Asked

(Associated Press By U. S. Naval Communication Service)

WASHINGTON, June 8.—The internal situation in Russia, especially as to army discipline appears much improved within the last twenty-four hours, according to official despatches from Petrograd. These despatches have manifestly relieved the feeling of anxiety which has been felt here.

It is semi-officially announced that the plans of the United States do not contemplate any interference in the internal affairs of Russia unless a request to do so shall come but in the event of such a request no time will be lost and prompt action may be expected to follow.

The most encouraging news of yesterday was that of the prompt settlement of the troubles at Kronstadt and the end or collapse of the revolt of the soldiers there when they yielded at once to the provisional government upon the arrival of the commissioner who explained the situation to them.

France Is Ready To Give Americans Welcome On Arrival

(Associated Press By U. S. Naval Communication Service)

PARIS, June 8.—With American warships off the coast and an American collier laden with supplies and equipment in port, the advent of an expeditionary force seemed last night to be nearer at hand. The transport or collier brought a large cargo of grain and other food-stuffs and was conveyed to port.

When the first contingent from the United States reaches here it will find everything in readiness to proceed without delay. Camps are prepared and await only occupancy.

France is preparing to give the American soldiers a great reception when they arrive and a welcome that will show the close friendship of the two peoples.

With good crops, sixty per cent of this year's needs without either country feeling deprivation. The Allies, he said, must have at least eighty per cent of their required food supplies in order to keep their efficiency at the highest average.

"This means some deprivation for us," said Hoover, "but we must fill their needs."